

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a shared window for entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a remote computer system subject to access control, the method comprising:

receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer system;

wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in order to operate the local computer system;

passing the command through a filtering process;

if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on the local computer system;

displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer system so that a local user can view the command; and

allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the command;

whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer system is granted on a per-command basis by a user of the local computer system.

1. 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the shared window is in an approval mode, the filtering process involves:

allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the command; and

5 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
6 filtering process.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a view-only mode, allowing no commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in an execute mode, allowing all commands received from the remote
3 user to pass the filtering process.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode, allowing commands from a pre-specified list
3 of safe commands to pass the filtering process.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising, if the shared
2 window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands:

4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and

6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein commands from different
2 users appear in different colors on the shared window.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allowing the command to be
2 displayed on the remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer

3 system involves sending an update for the shared window from the local computer
4 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a
2 second command from a second remote user on a second remote computer
3 system.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the filtering process takes
2 place on at least one of:

3 the remote computer system;

4 the local computer system; and

5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form
2 of character input.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the command is in the form
2 of an action applied to a graphical user interface.

1 13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method for providing a shared window for entering commands into a local
4 computer system, wherein the shared window can be shared with a remote user
5 who can input data into the shared window from a remote computer system
6 subject to access control, the method comprising:

7 receiving a command from the remote user on the remote computer
8 system;

9 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
10 order to operate the local computer system;
11 passing the command through a filtering process;
12 if the command passes the filtering process, executing the command on
13 the local computer system;
14 displaying the command on the shared window on the local computer
15 system so that a local user can view the command; and
16 allowing the command to be displayed on a remote copy of the shared
17 window on the remote computer system, so that the remote user can view the
18 command;
19 whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer
20 system is granted on a per-command basis by a user of the local computer system.

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1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an approval mode, the filtering process
3 involves:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a view-only mode, no commands received
3 from the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in an execute mode, all commands received from
3 the remote user are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 17. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-
3 specified list of safe commands are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 18. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 17,
2 wherein if the shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not
3 from the pre-specified list of safe commands, the method further comprises:
4 allowing the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 if the local user approves the command, allowing the command to pass the
7 filtering process.

1 19. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein commands from different users appear in different colors on the shared
3 window.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein allowing the command to be displayed on the remote copy of the shared
3 window on the remote computer system involves sending an update for the shared
4 window from the local computer system to the remote computer system, wherein
5 the update includes the command.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the method further comprises receiving a second command from a
3 second remote user on a second remote computer system.

1 22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the filtering process takes place on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;

4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 23. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of character input.

1 24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13,
2 wherein the command is in the form of an action applied to a graphical user
3 interface.

1 25. (Currently amended) An apparatus that provides a shared window for
2 entering commands into a local computer system, wherein the shared window can
3 be shared with a remote user who can input data into the shared window from a
4 remote computer system subject to access control, the apparatus comprising:

5 a receiving mechanism that is configured to receive a command from the
6 remote user on the remote computer system;

7 wherein the command is directed toward the local computer system in
8 order to operate the local computer system;

9 a filtering mechanism that is configured to pass the command through a
10 filtering process, and to execute the command on the local computer system if the
11 command passes the filtering process; and

12 a display mechanism that is configured to display the command on the
13 shared window on the local computer system so that a local user can view the
14 command;

15 wherein the display mechanism is configured to allow the command to be
16 displayed on a remote copy of the shared window on the remote computer system,
17 so that the remote user can view the command;

18 whereby permission to execute the command on the local computer
19 | system is granted on a per-command basis by a user of the local computer system.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in an approval mode, the filtering mechanism is configured to:
3 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the
4 command; and to
5 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
6 the command.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in a view-only mode, no commands received from the remote user are allowed to
3 pass the filtering process.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in an execute mode, all commands received from the remote user are allowed to
3 pass the filtering process.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the shared window is
2 in a safe command mode, commands from a pre-specified list of safe commands
3 are allowed to pass the filtering process.

1 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein if the
2 shared window is in a safe command mode and the command is not from the pre-
3 specified list of safe commands, the filtering mechanism is configured to:
4 allow the local user of the local computer system to approve the
5 command; and
6 allow the command to pass the filtering process if the local user approves
7 the command.

1 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism
2 is configured to display commands from different users in different colors on the
3 shared window.

1 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the display mechanism
2 is configured to send an update for the shared window from the local computer
3 system to the remote computer system, wherein the update includes the command.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the receiving
2 mechanism is configured to receive a second command from a second remote user
3 on a second remote computer system.

1 34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the filtering mechanism
2 is located on at least one of:
3 the remote computer system;
4 the local computer system; and
5 a shared server that is separate from the remote computer system and the
6 local computer system.

1 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the
2 form of character input.

1 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the command is in the
2 form of an action applied to a graphical user interface.